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1 KRONENBERGER ROSENFELD, LLP Karl S. Kronenberger (Bar No. 226112) 2 Jeffrey M. Rosenfeld (Bar No. 222187) 3 Virginia A. Sanderson (Bar No. 240241) 150 Post Street, Suite 520 4 San Francisco, CA 94108 5 Telephone: (415) 955-1155 Facsimile: (415) 955-1158 6 karl@KRInternetLaw.com 7 jeff@KRInternetLaw.com ginny@KRInternetLaw.com 8 9 Attorneys for Plaintiff 10 11 12 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT** CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 13 Case No. 14 NATIONAL PHOTO GROUP, LLC, 15

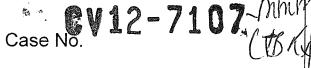
a California limited liability company,

Plaintiff,

VS.

WHITE CAT MEDIA, INC., d/b/a SHEFINDS MEDIA, a Delaware corporation, and DOES 1-10, inclusive.

Defendants.



COMPLAINT FOR COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Case No.

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Plaintiff National Photo Group, LLC, by and through its undersigned counsel, states and alleges as follows:

INTRODUCTION

- 1. Plaintiff National Photo Group, LLC ("NPG") provides entertainment-related photojournalism goods and services. In particular, NPG owns the rights to a multitude of photographs featuring celebrities, which it licenses to online and print publications. NPG's portfolio of celebrity photographs is the bread and butter of its business.
- 2. NPG has obtained U.S. copyright registrations covering many of its celebrity photographs, and others are the subject of pending copyright applications.
- 3. Defendant White Cat Media, Inc., d/b/a SheFinds Media ("SheFinds Media") owns and operates a website dedicated to current events, including celebrity news, shopping, and popular culture.
- 4. Without permission or authorization from NPG, SheFinds Media copied, modified, and displayed NPG's celebrity photographs on Defendant's website.
- 5. SheFinds Media engaged in this misconduct knowingly and in violation of the United States copyright laws.
- 6. NPG has been substantially harmed as a result of Defendant's misconduct.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 7. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over the federal copyright infringement claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1338(a) and 28 U.S.C. § 1331.
- 8. This Court has personal jurisdiction over SheFinds Media because it has substantial contacts with California and, as such, has personally availed itself of the laws of this state.

Case No. COMPLAINT

9. Venue is proper under 28 U.S.C. §1391(a)(2) because this is a judicial district in which a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claim occurred.

PARTIES

- 10. NPG is a California limited liability company and maintains its principal place of business in Los Angeles, California.
- 11. Upon information and belief, SheFinds Media is a Delaware corporation and maintains its principal place of business in New York, New York.
- 12. NPG does not know the true names and capacities, whether individual, associate, corporate or otherwise, of Defendants sued herein as Does 1-10 inclusive, and NPG therefore sues said Defendants by such fictitious names.
- 13. NPG will amend this complaint to state the true names and capacities of the Doe Defendants once they have been discovered. NPG is informed and believes, and, on that basis, alleges that each Defendant sued herein by a fictitious name is in some way liable and responsible to NPG based on the facts herein alleged.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS NPG's Business

- 14. NPG provides entertainment-related photojournalism goods and services. In particular, NPG owns the rights to a multitude of photographs featuring celebrities, which it licenses to online and print publications.
- 15. NPG has invested significant time and money in building its celebrity photograph portfolio. Due to the quality of its celebrity photographs, NPG has developed an impressive list of clients including some of the most-recognized names in celebrity reporting ("NPG's Clients").

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NPG's Copyrights

- 16. NPG has obtained U.S. copyright registrations covering many of its celebrity photographs.
- NPG's celebrity photographs are original, creative works in 17. which NPG owns protectable copyright interests.
- 18. NPG owns several active and valid copyright registrations with the United States Copyright Office (the "USCO"), which registrations cover NPG's celebrity photographs.
- For example, on November 29, 2011, NPG obtained a copyright registration for a collection of celebrity photographs, USCO Registration No. VA0001796345 (the "Copyright"), which included a series of photographs of actor Natalie Portman (the "Photographs").

Defendant's Website

- 20. SheFinds Media is the registered owner of the website located at <momfinds.com> (the "Website"). On information and belief, SheFinds Media operates the Website and is responsible for all Website content.
- The Website provides articles and other information about celebrity news, shopping, and popular culture.
- 22. The Website is monetized in that it contains paid advertisements. On information and belief, SheFinds Media profits from these paid advertisements.
- On information and belief, the Website averages approximately 23. 30,942 unique visitors per month.

Defendant's Misconduct

On or about November 29, 2011, SheFinds Media posted the 24. Photographs on the Website in posts entitled "Cute Kid Alert: Natalie Portman's Baby Rocks a Do-Rag" and "Natalie Portman Baby Aleph Do-Rag."

Case No.

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- 25. SheFinds Media copied On information and belief, Photographs from the websites of NPG's Clients and reposted them on the Website without license or permission, thereby infringing on the Copyright (the "Infringement").
- 26. On information and belief, SheFinds Media engaged in the Infringement knowingly and in violation of United States copyright laws. On information and belief, SheFinds Media has received a financial benefit directly attributable to the Infringement. Specifically, by way of the Infringement, SheFinds Media increased traffic to the Website and, in turn, its advertising revenues. In fact, SheFinds Media saw a spike in traffic to the Website by over 77,000 unique visitors during the month it posted the Photographs.
- 27. As a result of Defendant's misconduct, NPG has been substantially harmed.

CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Copyright Infringement, 17 U.S.C. § 501 et seq.)

- NPG repeats and incorporates by reference the allegations 28. contained in the preceding paragraphs.
- The Photographs are original, creative works in which NPG 29. owns protectable copyright interests.
- owns the Copyright for the Photographs, 30. USCO Registration No. VA0001796345.
- 31. NPG has not licensed SheFinds Media or any of its websites to use the Photographs in any manner, nor has NPG assigned any of its exclusive rights in the Copyright to SheFinds Media.
- 32. Without permission or authorization from NPG, and in willful violation of NPG's rights under 17 U.S.C. § 106, SheFinds Media reproduced the Photographs.



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- 33. On information and belief, without permission or authorization from NPG, and in willful violation of NPG's rights under 17 U.S.C. § 106, SheFinds Media displayed the Photographs on the Website.
- 34. Defendant's reproduction of the Photographs, and display of the Photographs on the Website, constitute copyright infringement.
- 35. On information and belief, thousands of people have viewed the unlawful copies of the Photographs on the Website.
- On information and belief, SheFinds Media had knowledge of 36. the copyright infringement alleged herein and had the ability to stop the reproduction and display of NPG's copyrighted material.
- Defendant's copyright infringement has damaged NPG in an 37. amount to be proven at trial.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, NPG respectfully requests judgment as follows:

- 1. That the Court enter a judgment finding that SheFinds Media has infringed on NPG's Copyright in the Photographs in violation of 17 U.S.C. § 501 et seq.;
 - 2. That the Court award damages and monetary relief as follows:
 - Statutory damages against SheFinds Media pursuant to 17 a. U.S.C. § 504(c) of \$150,000 per infringement or, in the alternative, NPG's actual damages and Defendant's wrongful profits in an amount to be proven at trial;
 - NPG's attorneys' fees pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 505; b.
 - NPG's costs; and C.

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Case No.

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3. Such other relief that the Court determines is just and proper.

Respectfully Submitted,

DATED: August $\frac{\cancel{19}}{\cancel{9}}$, 2012

KRONENBERGER ROSENFELD, LLP

Attorneys for Plaintiff

REQUEST FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiff hereby demands a trial of this action by jury.

DATED: August <u>(\$</u>, 2012

KRONENBERGER ROSENFELD, LLP

By: Virginia A. Sanderson

Attorneys for Plaintiff

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Central District of California

NATIONAL PHOTO GROUP, LLC, a California limited liability company,)	
Plaintiff)	
v.	ĺ,	ivil A 101 Vol 2 - 7107 - mmm
WHITE CAT MEDIA, INC., d/b/a SHEFINDS MEDIA, a Delaware corporation, and DOES 1-10, inclusive,) [TURK
Defendant)	CVDG

SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: (Defendant's name and address) WHITE CAT MEDIA, INC., d/b/a SHEFINDS MEDIA c/o National Corporate Research, Ltd., Registered Agent 615 South Dupont Hwy Dover, DE 19901

A lawsuit has been filed against you.

Within 21 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you received it) — or 60 days if you are the United States or a United States agency, or an officer or employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) — you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney,

whose name and address are:

Virginia A. Sanderson

KRONENBERGER ROSENFELD, LLP 150 Post Street Suite 520

150 Post Street Suite 520 San Francisco, CA 94108

If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You also must file your answer or motion with the court.

AUG 17 2012

Date:

CEERK OF COOK

Signature of Clerk or Deputy Cle.

AO 440 (Rev. 12/09) Summons in a Civil Action (Page 2)

Civil Action No.

PROOF OF SERVICE

(This section should not be filed with the court unless required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 4 (1))

	This summons for (nan	ne of individual and title, if any)		
was rec	ceived by me on (date)	*		
٠	☐ I personally served	the summons on the individual at (pla	ace)	
			on (date)	; or
		at the individual's residence or usual		
			itable age and discretion who resid	
	on (date) .	, and mailed a copy to the i	ndividual's last known address; or	
	☐ I served the summo	ons on (name of individual)		, who is
	designated by law to a	accept service of process on behalf of		
			on (date)	; or
		nons unexecuted because		· or
	Other (specify):			
	My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a total of \$	0.00
	I declare under penalt	y of perjury that this information is to	ne.	
Date:			Server's signature	
			server s signature	
			Printed name and title	
			Server's address	

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

Case 2:12-cv-07107-MMM-VBK Document 1 Filed 08/17/12 Page 11 of 12 Page ID #:14 COVER SHEET

CIVIL COVER SHEET									
I (a) PLAINTIFFS (Check box if you are representing yourself □) NATIONAL PHOTO GROUP, LLC, a California limited liability compan				EFENDANTS WHITE CAT MEDIA, I and DOES 1-10, inclusiv	NC., d/b/ e	a SHEFINDS MEI	DIA, a Delaw	are corpor	ation,
(b) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address and Telephone Number. If you are repress yourself, provide same.)			representing A	ttorneys (If Known)			1.11		
Virginia Sanderson, KRONENBERGER ROSENFELD, LLP 150 Post Street, Suite 520 San Francisco, CA 94108, (415) 955-1155									
II. BASIS OF JURISDICTIO	N (Place an X in one box only.)		III. CITIZENSH (Place an X i	IP OF PRINCIPAL PAR	TIES -	For Diversity Case lefendant.)	s Only	······································	
☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff		Citizen of This Sta	PTF I Citizen of This State □ 1 □		Incorporated or l		PTF ce □4	DEF □ 4	
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant ☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)		Citizen of Another	State \square	2 🗆 2	Incorporated and of Business in A		ace 🗆 5	□ 5	
***			Citizen or Subject	of a Foreign Country	□ 3	Foreign Nation		□6	□6
IV. ORIGIN (Place an X in or	ne box only.)								
Original 2 Remove State C	red from		oinstated or □ 5 Topened	Fransferred from another d	istrict (sp	Distr	rict .	Appeal to I Judge from Magistrate	1
V. REQUESTED IN COMPI	AINT: JURY DEMAND: 🗹	Yes □	No (Check 'Yes' o	nly if demanded in compla	int.)				
CLASS ACTION under F.R.C	C.P. 23: ☐ Yes ☑ No		□мо	ONEY DEMANDED IN (COMPL	AINT: \$			
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION (Ci	te the U.S. Civil Statute under whi	ich you a	are filing and write	a brief statement of cause.	Do not o	cite jurisdictional st	atutes unless	diversity.))
Copyright Infringement, 1	7 U.S.C. § 501 et seq			······································		-			
VII. NATURE OF SUIT (Pla	ce an X in one box only.)								
OTHER STATUTES	CONTRACT		TORTS	TORTS		PRISONER	L	ABOR	
☐ 400 State Reapportionment	□ 110 Insurance	1	SONAL INJURY	PERSONAL		PETITIONS	□ 710 Fair		ndards
☐ 410 Antitrust	☐ 120 Marine		Airplane Airplane Product	PROPERTY	□ 510	Motions to	Act		
☐ 430 Banks and Banking ☐ 450 Commerce/ICC	☐ 130 Miller Act ☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument	10 313	Liability	☐ 370 Other Fraud☐ 371 Truth in Lending	.	Vacate Sentence Habeas Corpus	□ 720 Lab	or/Mgmt. ations	
Rates/etc.	☐ 150 Recovery of	□ 320	Assault, Libel &	□ 380 Other Personal	1	General	□ 730 Lab		
☐ 460 Deportation	Overpayment &		Slander	Property Damag				orting &	
☐ 470 Racketeer Influenced	Enforcement of	□ 330	Fed. Employers' Liability	☐ 385 Property Damag				closure Act	-
and Corrupt	Judgment	□ 340	Marine	Product Liability		Other	□ 740 Rail		r Act
Organizations ☐ 480 Consumer Credit	☐ 151 Medicare Act ☐ 152 Recovery of Defaulted	□ 345	Marine Product	BANKRUPTCY □ 422 Appeal 28 USC		Civil Rights Prison Condition	□ 790 Oth	er Labor gation	
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Exchange ☐ 875 Customer Challenge 12	Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits	□ 360	Other Personal	CIVIL RIGHTS ☐ 441 Voting	620	Other Food &	₩ 820 Cop		
USC 3410	☐ 160 Stockholders' Suits	□ 362	Injury Personal Injury-	☐ 442 Employment	□ 625	Drug Drug Related	□ 830 Pate		
☐ 890 Other Statutory Actions	☐ 190 Other Contract	302	Med Malpractice	□ 443 Housing/Acco-		Seizure of	The contract of the country	, SECURI	TY
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☐ 892 Economic Stabilization Act	Liability ☐ 196 Franchise	T 260	Product Liability	☐ 444 Welfare	D 630	881	□ 862 Blac		
☐ 893 Environmental Matters	REAL PROPERTY	1 300	Asbestos Personal Injury Product	☐ 445 American with Disabilities -	1	Liquor Laws R.R. & Truck	□ 863 DIV (405	(g))	
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FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: Case Number:

Case Number: **8V12-7107**

AFTER COMPLETING THE FRONT SIDE OF FORM CV-71, COMPLETE THE INFORMATION REQUESTED BELOW.

Case 2:12-cv-07107-MMM-VBK Document 1 Filed 08/17/12 Page 12 of 12 Page ID #:15 UNITED STATE VISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRIC F CALIFORNIA CIVIL COVER SHEET

VIII(a). IDENTICAL CASES: If yes, list case number(s):	las this action been p	previously filed in this court and	dismissed, remanded or closed? ♥No □ Yes			
VIII(b). RELATED CASES: Ha	ave any cases been p	reviously filed in this court that	are related to the present case? ☑ No ☐ Yes			
0.0	A. Arise from the san B. Call for determina C. For other reasons v D. Involve the same p	ne or closely related transactions tion of the same or substantially would entail substantial duplicat patent, trademark or copyright, <u>a</u>	related or similar questions of law and fact; or tion of labor if heard by different judges; or tion of the factors identified above in a, b or c also is present.			
IX. VENUE: (When completing t(a) List the County in this Distric□ Check here if the government	t; California County	outside of this District; State if	other than California: or Foreign Country in which FACH named plaintiff resides			
County in this District:*	, its agencies or empi		california County outside of this District; State, if other than California; or Foreign Country			
Los Angeles			, and the second			
(b) List the County in this District Check here if the government,	t; California County its agencies or empl	outside of this District; State if covers is a named defendant. If	other than California; or Foreign Country, in which EACH named defendant resides. this box is checked, go to item (c).			
County in this District:*			California County outside of this District; State, if other than California; or Foreign Country			
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(c) List the County in this District Note: In land condemnation	; California County c	outside of this District; State if co	other than California; or Foreign Country, in which EACH claim arose.			
County in this District:*			California County outside of this District; State, if other than California; or Foreign Country			
Los Angeles						
* Los Angeles, Orange, San Berna Note: In land condemnation cases, t	ardino, Riverside, V	entura, Santa Barbara, or San e tract of land involved	n Luis Obispo Counties			
X. SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY	(OR PRO PER):	Afra le	- Date AUGUST 15, 2012			
or other papers as required by labule is used by the Clerk of the	aw. This form, appro	ved by the Judicial Conference o of statistics, venue and initiating	ation contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings of the United States in September 1974, is required pursuant to Local Rule 3-1 is not filed g the civil docket sheet. (For more detailed instructions, see separate instructions sheet.)			
Key to Statistical codes relating to S	•					
Nature of Suit Code	Abbreviation	Substantive Statement of C	ause of Action			
861	НІА	All claims for health insurance benefits (Medicare) under Title 18, Part A, of the Social Security Act, as amended. Also, include claims by hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, etc., for certification as providers of services under the program. (42 U.S.C. 1935FF(b))				
862	BL	All claims for "Black Lung" benefits under Title 4, Part B, of the Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act of 1969. (30 U.S.C. 923)				
863	DIWC	All claims filed by insured workers for disability insurance benefits under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended; plus all claims filed for child's insurance benefits based on disability. (42 U.S.C. 405(g))				
863	DIWW	All claims filed for widows or widowers insurance benefits based on disability under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended. (42 U.S.C. 405(g))				
864	SSID	All claims for supplemental security income payments based upon disability filed under Title 16 of the Social Security Act, as amended.				
865	RSI	All claims for retirement (old age) and survivors benefits under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended. (42 U.S.C. (g))				

CV-71 (05/08) CIVIL COVER SHEET Page 2 of 2